

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-8. (*canceled*)

9. (*new*) A laser scanning microscope with an illumination beam path, a direction of detection, and ~~at least one of~~ a non-descanned detection beam path ~~and an observation beam path~~, the laser scanning microscope comprising:

a housing;

a beam splitter positioned to separate the illumination and detection beam paths, the beam splitter being arranged within the housing;

optical transmission means arranged downstream of the beam splitter in the direction of detection for regular transmission of detected light; and

optical reduction means for reducing the diameter of a beam bundle to be imaged, the optical reduction means being mounted one of immediately at the beam splitter housing and integrated in the housing of the beam splitter, between the beam splitter and the optical transmission means in the direction of the detection.

10. (*new*) The laser scanning microscope according to claim 9, wherein the optical reduction means is a convex lens.

11. (new) The laser scanning microscope according to claim 9, wherein the optical reduction means is a diffractive optical element.

12. (new) The laser scanning microscope according to claim 9, wherein the optical reduction means is interchangeable.

13. (new) The laser scanning microscope according to claim 9, wherein the optical reduction means can be plugged in.